

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 SIG-01 JUSE-00

INT-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01

H-01 /100 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/BP:T A SCHLENKER:BT

APPROVED BY EB/IFD/BP: W B LOCKWOOD

AF/S:W EATON (SUBS)

EUR/CAN:D BLAKEMORE (INFO)

EUR/W:S WORREL (SUBS)

L/EB:S BENSON

EB/ISM:A HEWITT (INFO)

-----262320Z 001660 /15

P R 262157Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HAMILTON PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL TORONTO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST: PLATINUM METALS INDUSTRY

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1. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT IT "IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE STRUCTURE AND CONDUCT OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLATINUM GROUP METALS INDUSTRY. THE COMPANIES UNDER INVESTIGATION INCLUDE NOT ONLY MAJOR UNITED STATES PLATINUM REFINERS AND DISTRIBUTORS BUT ALSO COMPANIES LOCATED IN CANADA, GREAT BRITAIN, BERMUDA AND SOUTH AFRICA. IT IS OUR (DOJ'S) BELIEF THAT

ONE OF THESE COMPANIES, ANGLO-AMERICAN CORP., LTD., OF SOUTH AFRICA, CONTROLS A MAJOR PORTION OF WORLD PLATINUM TRADE, AND A VERY MAJOR PORTION OF U.S. PLATINUM TRADE IN PARTICULAR, AND THAT THIS CONTROL, WHICH IS EXERCISED THROUGH VARIOUS LAYERS OF COMPANY ORGANIZATION, MAY CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE CLAYTON OR SHERMAN ACTS. TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ANGLO-AMERICAN INDIRECTLY CONTROLS BOTH OF THE MAJOR PLATINUM FIRMS IN THIS COUNTRY -- MATTHEY BISHOP INC. (AND AN AFFILIATED FIRM JOHNSON, MATTHEY AND CO., INC.) AND ENGELHARD MINERALS AND CHEMICALS CORP. CONTROL OVER ENGELHARD WAS ACQUIRED, WE BELIEVE, IN 1969, AND IS EXERCISED THROUGH THE BERMUDA-BASED MINERAL AND RESOURCES CORP. (MINORCO)."

2. DOJ PROPOSES TO SEND CIVIL INVESTIGATIVE DEMANDS SEEKING BOTH WRITTEN ANSWERS AND PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS TO SEVERAL U.S. FIRMS, TO MINORCO, TO THE ENGLISH PARENT OF MATTHEY BISHOP (THAT IS, TO JOHNSON, MATTHEY AND CO. LTD.), TO INTERNATIONAL NICKEL CO. OF CANADA, LTD., AND TO IMPALA PLATINUM LTD., A SOUTH AFRICAN FIRM. JUSTICE DOES NOT RPT NOT PROPOSE, AT THIS TIME, TO APPROACH ANGLO-AMERICAN ITSELF OR ITS SOUTH AFRICAN AFFILIATES IN THE PLATINUM INDUSTRY.

3. FOR LONDON AND OTTAWA: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THIS IMPENDING ANTITRUST ACTION PURSUANT TO 1967 OECD NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE. PLEASE LIMIT CORPORATE REFERENCES TO ONLY THOSE PERTAINING TO NATIONAL COMPANIES OF HOST GOVERNMENT.
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4. FOR PRETORIA AND HAMILTON: ABOVE INFORMATION IS FOR POSTS' BACKGROUND ONLY. ADDRESS GIVEN FOR MINERALS AND RESOURCES CORP. LTD. IS BELVEDERE BUILDING, PITTS BAY ROAD, PEMBROKE, BERMUDA.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INVESTIGATIONS, BUSINESS FIRMS, PLATINUM, MONOPOLIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: T A SCHLENKER:BT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770417/aaaaaomm.tel
Line Count: 103
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 547e1c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2688241
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: ANTITRUST: PLATINUM METALS INDUSTRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: ETRD, EMIN, US, ANGLO-AMERICAN CORP
To: PRETORIA LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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